

TELEHEALTH 201: Licensure



Center for Connected
Health Policy

THE NATIONAL
TELEHEALTH POLICY
RESOURCE CENTER



CENTER FOR CONNECTED HEALTH POLICY (CCHP)

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is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that seeks to advance state and national telehealth policy to promote improvements in health systems and greater health equity.

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LICENSURE POLICY

- **Licensure is controlled by the states**
 - Typically, if you are providing services to a patient located in another state, you must be licensed in that state.
 - Some times there are narrow exceptions such as you are operating in a contiguous state or providing services within a certain distance of a state border
 - During the public health emergency (PHE) some states relaxed their licensure requirements and allowed providers in good standing licensed in other states to provide services without getting a license in the patient state. Those will end with the PHE unless some change in the state has been made.
 - Some states may have special licenses or certificates that they issue for telehealth



COMPACTS

➤ **To address the licensure issue licensure issue, some states have joined compacts**

- **Compacts are agreements among states that impact licensure of providers.**
- **There are several different compacts that exist, targeting specific health professions (physicians, nurses, PTs, etc.)**
- **A state must pass the exact same legislation to join a compact**
- **Most compacts have a minimum number of states that must have passed legislation before the compact becomes active**
- **Compacts differ in how they operate**



8 COMPACTS

COMPACT	TYPE OF COMPACT	# MEMBER STATES	ACTIVE
Medical Licensure Compact (Physicians)	Expedited process	31 states, DC & Guam	Yes
Nurse Licensure Compact	Mutual recognition	37 states & Guam	Yes
Physical Therapy Compact	Mutual recognition	33 states	Yes
Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact	Apply with PSYPACT Commission for ability to practice telepsychology in compact member states.	26 states & DC	Yes
Audiology & SLP Interstate Compact	Mutual recognition	15 states	Yes
Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Compact	Extend “Privilege to Practice” in compact member states under qualified circumstances	21 states	Yes
Occupational Therapy Compact	Mutual recognition	9 states	No
Counseling Compact	Mutual recognition	2 states	No

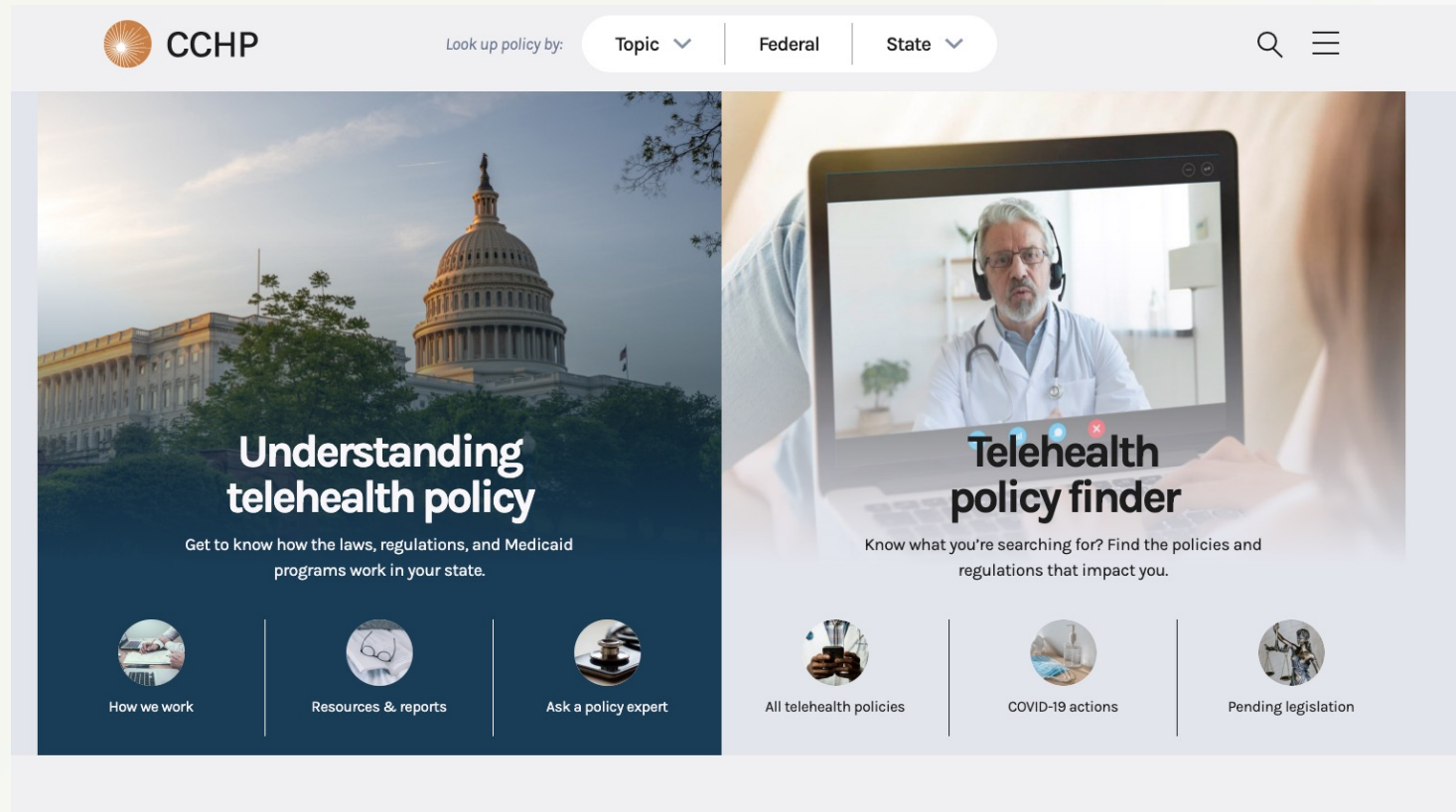


IMPACTS OF COVID-19

- **Licensure laws relaxed in some states in response to COVID-19**
- **2 States Made Changes to Licensure Laws**
 - Florida & Arizona
 - Physicians licensed in other states could **register** with Florida and Arizona and not have to get a state license.
 - Uncertain how onerous the “registration” process may be.
 - Arizona set to launch registry later this year (November 2021)

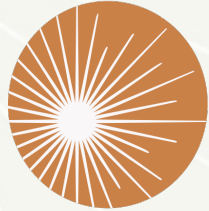


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